

A new Lark from South West Africa

by MR. C. M. N. WHITE

Received 30th December, 1954.

Mirafra africanoides rubidior new race

Description: the most intensely red of all the forms of *M. africanoides* in South West Africa; nearest to *M. a. gobabisensis* (Roberts), but a deeper and richer red on the upperside, sides of the face and wing coverts and wing margins; breast and flanks with a more decided rusty wash; black streaking heavier.

Type: male adult collected by W. Hoesch at Ozondjache, west of Waterberg, and near Otjiwarongo, South West Africa, 22 October, 1954. In my collection.

Measurements of Type: wing 93, tail 63, culmen from skull 17 mm.

Distribution: At present only known from the type locality, a volcanic rock, where two males and a female, all identical, were collected.

Remarks: I am much indebted to Mrs. P. B. Hall for comments on the material in the British Museum of this species, and to Mr. J. D. Macdonald who kindly allowed me to have information about the arrangement of the South African races which he has adopted in his report on the British Museum expedition to South West Africa. My own material reviewed in the light of Mr. Macdonald's arrangement agrees with it. The new race was compared with the following material of other forms in South West Africa: *M. a. harei* Roberts 5; *M. a. omaruru* (Roberts) 6; *M. a. gobabisensis* (Roberts) 11; *M. a. sarwensis* (Roberts) 3. The limited range of this very dark race may be judged from the fact that the pale race *M. a. omaruru* occurs at Franzfontein to the west (fide Macdonald) as well as at Omaruru and Okahandja to the south; the palest race *M. a. sarwensis* at Tsumeb to the north east and *M. a. gobabisensis* at Osire on the south side of the Waterberg, to the south east.

A new race of Lark from Bechuanaland

by MR. R. H. N. SMITHERS

Received 5th February, 1955.

Mirafra damarensis nata new race.

Description: Differs from all other races in being ashy-grey above, greyer than *Mirafra damarensis damarensis* Sharpe, and with bases of feathers of top of head dusky, not rufous.

Distribution: North-eastern Bechuanaland.

Type: In the National Museum of S. Rhodesia, Bulawayo. Male adult. Ten miles west of Nata, north-eastern Bechuanaland, 17th October, 1953. Collector's No. B.110. Reg. No. N.M. 18668.

Measurements of Type: Wing 86; culmen from base 17; tail 57; tarsus 25 mm.

Remarks: Except for the dusky base of the feathers on the top of the head this new race agrees with *Mirafra damarensis* in the shape and size of